PATENT 81844.0049

MAR 0 9 2006

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit: Not Assigned In re application of: Examiner: Not Assigned NISHIDE, et al. Serial No: 10/563,488 I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Filed: January 3, 2006 Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed Stent To Be Placed In Vivo For: **Commissioner for Patents** P.O. Box 1450 TRANSMITTAL OF Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on March 7, 2006 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT Date of Deposit Shinda Commissioner for Patents Nan P.O. Box 1450 March 7, 2006 Signature Date Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 Dear Sirs: 1. The information disclosure statement submitted herewith is being filed within three months of the filing date of the application other than a continued prosecution application, or within three months of the date of entry into the national stage of an international application, or before the mailing date of a first Office Action on the merits, or before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §1.114, whichever event occurs last. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(b). 2. The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed after the period specified in §1.97(b), but before the mailing date of a final action under §1.113, or a notice of allowance under §1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, whichever occurs first. A statement specified in §1.97(e) or a fee set forth in §1.17(p) is included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(c). §1.97(e) STATEMENT I, the person signing below, state: that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1). OR that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in

§1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R.

§1.97(e)(2).

OR FEE

	Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c). (\$180.00). [OR:] Please charge the fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(c) (\$180.00) to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.
	The information disclosure statement transmitted herewith is being filed <i>after</i> the period specified in §1.97(c), but before, or simultaneously with the payment of the issue fee. A statement specified in §1.97(e) and a fee set forth in §1.17(p) are included. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(d).
	§1.97(e) STATEMENT
	I, the person signing below, state:
	that each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in the attached communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application and that the communication is dated not more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(1).
	OR
	that no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the statement. 37 C.F.R. §1.97(e)(2).
	AND FEE
	Attached is a fee set forth in 37 C.F.R. §1.17(p) for submission of an information disclosure statement under §1.97(d). (\$180.00).
\boxtimes	If it should be determined that for any reason either an insufficient fee or an excessive has been paid, please charge any insufficiency or credit any overpayment necessary to ensure consideration of the information disclosure statement for the above-identified application to Deposit Account No. 50-1314. A copy of this petition is enclosed.
\boxtimes	A list of <u>14</u> reference(s) is in the enclosed Form PTO-1449.

NON-ENGLISH LANGUAGE REFERENCES

	Enclosed is a search report for a counterpart application. The search report Examiner has provided comments on the relevancy of any non-English language references cited in the search report.
\boxtimes	The specification incorporates comments on the relevancy of Non-English language references.
	Set forth below are comments provided by the applicant's home country counsel on the relevancy of non-English language references:

Respectfully submitted, HOGAN & HARTSON L.L.P.

Date: March 7, 2006

Biltmore Tower 500 South Grand Avenue, Suite 1900 Los Angeles, CA 90071

Telephone: Facsimile:

(213) 337-6700 (213) 337-6701 Dariush G. Adli

Registration No. 51,386 Attorney for Applicant(s) FORM PTO-1449

INFORMATION SISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Docket Number (Optional) 81844.0049

Application Number 10/563,488

Applicant

NISHIDE, et al.

Filing Date

anuary 3.2 006

Group Art Unit

EXAMINER INITIAL	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE	
	5,591,222 (corresponds to JP3-21262)	01/07/97	SUSAWA, et al.				
	6,045,568 (corresponds to JP5-103830)	04/04/00	IGAKI, et al.				
	4,894,366 (corresponds to JP61-148181)	01/16/90	OKUHARA, et al.				
	F	OREIGN PA	TENT DOCUMEN	ITS			
	DOCUMENT NUMBER	DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	Transla YES	ation NO
	03-021262	01/30/91	JAPAN			Abstract	
	05-103830	04/27/93	JAPAN			Abstract	
	09-308693	12/02/97	JAPAN			Abstract	
	0 551 182 (corresponds to JP6-009390)	07/14/93	EP			Abstract	
	06-009390	01/18/94	JAPAN			Abstract	
	02/065947	08/29/02	wo			Abstract	
	1 254 674	11/06/02	EP			Abstract	
	91/17789 (corresponds to JP5-509008)	11/28/91	wo			Abstract	
	95/03036 (corresponds to 9-503488)	02/02/95	wo			Abstract	
	91/12779 (corresponds to 5-502179)	09/05/91	wo			Abstract	
	61-148181	07/05/86	JAPAN			Abstract	
	OTHER DOCUME	NTS (Including	Author, Title, Date, Pe	ertinent Pages	s, Etc.)		

EXAMINER	DATE CONSIDERED	

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP § 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.